

REMARKS

The present application was filed on February 6, 2001 with claims 1-38. In the outstanding final Office Action, the Examiner: (i) rejected claims 19-27 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,377,913 to Coffman et al. (hereinafter "Coffman"); (ii) rejected claim 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coffman; and (iii) allowed claims 1-18 and 29-37.

Applicants sincerely appreciate the indication of allowance of claims 1-18 and 29-37.

In this response, Applicants amend independent claims 19, 29-32, 36 and 38.

Regarding claims 29-32 and 36, while said claims are indicated as being allowable, Applicants respectfully point out that said claims were originally dependent on rejected independent claim 19. Thus, Applicants have merely rewritten said claims in independent form incorporating the limitations of original independent claim 19. Thus, said claims are clearly still allowable.

Regarding independent claims 19 and 38, while Applicants still believe that such claims, as originally filed, are patentably distinct over Coffman based at least on the remarks presented in their Amendment and Response dated March 22, 2004, Applicants have nonetheless amended independent claims 19 and 38 in a sincere effort to expedite the present application through to allowance.

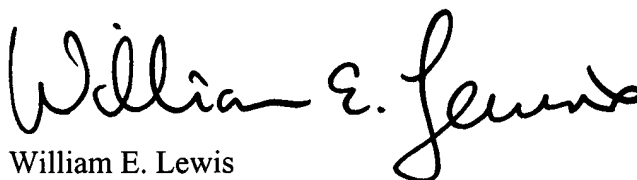
More particularly, as independent claims 1, 10 and 18 were previously amended, Applicants have amended independent claims 19 and 38 to indicate that the claimed invention "provides for a capability to make a determination of an intent, a focus and a mood of at least one of the one or more users based on at least a portion of the obtained multi-modal input data." As explained in Applicants' previous response, among other deficiencies, Coffman does not disclose the step/operation of "providing for a capability to make a determination of an intent, a focus and a mood of at least one of the one or more users based on at least a portion of the obtained multi-modal input data," as in the claimed invention. Applicants assert that dependent claim 20-28 are also patentably distinct over Coffman for at least these reasons.

Applicants respectfully request that the present amendments be entered since they do not require any further search effort and/or require any further significant consideration. This is based

on the fact that the amendments to claims 19 and 38 are the same amendments made to independent claims 1, 10 and 18, which were found to be allowable by the Examiner.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that claims 1-38 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request withdrawal of the §102(e) and §103(a) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William E. Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being the most prominent part.

Date: September 15, 2004

William E. Lewis  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 39,274  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
90 Forest Avenue  
Locust Valley, NY 11560  
(516) 759-2946